

# **A service of the word in Advent for all the Church Family**

**The Parish Church of  
St Mary Magdalene  
Lincoln**





## Gathering to worship God

### *Greeting*

Let us worship God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

**All: Amen.**

The Lord be with you

**All: and also with you.**

This is the day that the Lord has made.

**All: We will rejoice and be glad in it.**

### *Opening Prayer*

Loving God, we have come to worship you.

**All: Help us to pray to you in faith,  
to sing your praise with gratitude,  
and to listen to you word with eagerness;  
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*Silence is kept and the Collect, the prayer of the day,  
is said.*

## Saying sorry to God

### *Confession*

Lord Jesus, you came to gather the nations  
into the peace of your kingdom:

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

You come in word and sacrament  
to strengthen us in holiness:  
Christ, have mercy.  
**Christ, have mercy.**

You will come in glory  
with salvation for your people:  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

*The minister declares God's forgiveness.*

May the God of love and power  
forgive *you* and free *you* from *your* sins,  
heal and strengthen *you* by his Spirit,  
and raise *you* to new life in Christ our Lord.

**All: Amen.**

## *Praise*

*These words may be said*

The wilderness and the dry land shall rejoice,  
**All: the desert shall blossom and burst into song.**

They shall see the glory of the Lord,  
**All: the majesty of our our God.**

## **Hearing and responding to the Word of God**

### *Reading(s)*

*After each reading*

This is the word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

## *Response*

*A short reflection is offered.*

### *Affirmation of Faith*

Do you believe and trust in God the Father,  
source of all being and life,  
the one for whom we exist?

**All: We believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in God the Son,  
who took our human nature,  
died for us and rose again?

**All: We believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit,  
who gives life to the people of God  
and makes Christ known in the world?

**All: We believe and trust in him.**

This is the faith of the Church.

**All: This is our faith.**

**We believe and trust in one God,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.  
Amen.**

## *Prayers of Intercession*

*The prayers may include one of these responses*

Lord, in your mercy

**All: hear our prayer.**

*(or)*

Lord, hear your people

**All: and answer our prayers.**

*The prayers may end with*

Merciful Father,

**All: accept these prayers  
for the sake of your Son,  
our Saviour Jesus Christ.  
Amen.**

### *The Lord's Prayer*

Awaiting his coming in glory,  
as our Saviour taught us, so we pray

**All: Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Lead us not into temptation  
but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and for ever.  
Amen.**

## Going out to serve God

*This prayer may be said*

May the Lord, when he comes,

**All: find us watching and waiting.**

Let us bless the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

The blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,  
be among *you* and remain with *you* always.

As we wait our coming Saviour,  
go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**All: In the name of Christ. Amen.**

*Thank you for sharing in this service.*

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